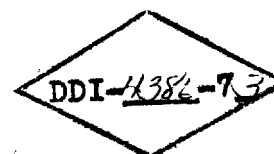


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SEP 13 1973

Mr. William Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Central Intelligence Agency for the assistance and cooperation extended to the Maritime Administration during negotiations which led to the signing of the U. S. /U. S. S. R. Maritime Agreement and subsequent negotiations involving implementation of the Agreement.

Messrs. [redacted] are to be commended for their outstanding work in monitoring the shipment of grain to the Soviet Union. As the Designated Representative of the U. S. for implementation of the U. S. /U. S. S. R. Maritime Agreement, I can attest to the fact that the information and data provided by your staff has been invaluable to me in carrying out my duties under the Agreement. [redacted] continued analysis of the Soviet merchant marine is extremely beneficial.

While I leave it to your good judgment, I believe that the complete cooperation, untiring efforts and timely responses to our requests for information by Messrs. [redacted] worthy of special recognition.

I look forward to our continuing cooperation.

Sincerely,

sgd. Robert J. Blackwell
ROBERT J. BLACKWELL
Assistant Secretary
for Maritime Affairs

cc: Maurice Ernst, C.I.A., Langley, Va.
✓ Edward Proctor, C.I.A., Langley, Va.

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